



AG DIGEST

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Agricultural
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Highlights

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HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,050,000 hogs and pigs on **Pennsylvania** farms on September 1, 1999. This estimated inventory was down 5 percent from the previous year's inventory. Market hog inventory at 935,000 head, was down 5 percent, while breeding stock inventory, at 115,000 head, was the same as this time last year. The June-August 1999 pig crop totaled 392,000 head,

down 6 percent from the same period a year earlier. There were 44,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down 4,000 head from previous year. The average litter rate was 8.90 pigs per litter, compared to 8.70 for the same period in 1998.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 44,000 sows farrow during the September-November 1999 period, 4 percent less than actual farrowings a year ago. Farrowing intentions for the December-February 2000 quarter are projected at 44,000 sows, 6 percent less than the actual farrowings for the same period last year.

Nationally, the inventory of all hogs and pigs was estimated at 60.7 million head on September 1, 1999. This was 4 percent below a year ago, but 1 percent above June 1, 1999 inventory. Breeding hog inventory, at 6.29 million, was down 8 percent from September 1, 1998, and down 3 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.4 million, was down 4 percent from September 1, 1998, but slightly above June 1, 1999. The U.S. pig crop for June-August 1999 totaled 25.9 million head, 3 percent below last year but slightly above 1997.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the September-November 1999 quarter, 5 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period a year ago, and 3 percent below 1997. Farrowing intentions for December 1999-February 2000, at 2.81 million sows, are down 3 percent from 1999 and 4 percent below the 1998 period.

HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBER, SEPTEMBER 1, 1998-1999

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	1998	1999	1999/98	1998	1999	1999/98
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - September 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs	1,100	1,050	95	63,488	60,736	96
Kept For Breeding	115	115	100	6,875	6,291	92
Market	985	935	95	56,612	54,444	96
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds	350	330	94	21,189	20,273	96
60-119 Pounds	255	240	94	14,032	13,424	96
120-179 Pounds	215	200	93	11,555	11,149	96
180 Pounds and Over	165	165	100	9,837	9,599	98
Sows Farrowing:						
December ¹ -February	47	47	100	2,929	2,897	99
March-May	48	47	98	3,086	2,990	97
June-August	48	44	92	3,054	2,925	96
September-November	46	² 44	96	2,993	² 2,850	95
Pig Crop:						
December ¹ -February	404	409	101	25,480	25,293	99
March-May	418	414	99	26,989	26,301	97
June-August	418	392	94	26,634	25,907	97
	Number			Number		
Pigs Per Litter:						
December ¹ -February	8.60	8.70	101	8.70	8.73	100
March-May	8.70	8.80	101	8.75	8.80	101
June-August	8.70	8.90	102	8.72	8.86	102

¹ December preceding year. ² Intentions.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DECLINES 1 POINT

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in September was 97 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the August index. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes more than offset the relatively higher marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn, and potatoes. The marketing changes would have decreased the index two points but were partially offset by the price

increase. Price increases from August for milk, lettuce, tomatoes, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for hogs, grapes, potatoes, and onions.

Compared with September 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 2 points (2.0 percent) lower. Price decreases from September 1998 for broilers, soybeans, milk, and cotton more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, calves, and wheat.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, SEPTEMBER, 1999

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Sep 1998	Aug 1999	Sep 1999 ¹	Sep 1998	Aug 1999	Sep 1999 ¹
Dollars							
Corn	Bu.	2.41	2.49	2.46	1.83	1.75	1.79
Wheat, Winter	Bu.	-	-	-	2.29	2.34	2.41
Oats	Bu.	1.36	1.50	1.50	1.07	.967	1.03
Barley	Bu.	-	-	-	2.01	2.37	2.14
Hay, All	Ton	107.00	126.00	136.00	85.00	77.40	74.50
Alfalfa	Ton	126.00	141.00	157.00	87.10	81.50	77.30
Other	Ton	98.00	111.00	125.00	74.90	62.80	63.70
Apples, Fresh Use	Cwt.	23.00	25.00	22.00	22.60	18.40	23.20
Potatoes	Cwt.	6.35	6.40	6.65	4.97	6.33	5.26
Cows, Slaughter	Cwt.	33.90	36.60	36.00	32.60	36.30	34.90
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	57.50	62.40	62.00	58.90	66.20	66.90
Calves	Cwt.	75.50	105.00	99.00	74.10	89.60	91.20
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	26.60	35.40	32.40	30.10	36.90	32.90
Sows	Cwt.	16.60	21.10	18.10	18.20	23.10	22.00
Turkeys	Lb.	.410	.430	.440	.402	.431	.445
Broilers	Lb.	.435	.330	.362	.459	.362	.365
Eggs ²	Doz.	.540	.490	.440	.496	.420	.397
Milk, Fluid Grade	Cwt.	17.20	14.30	-	16.80	15.00	15.90
Manufactured Grade ..	Cwt.	15.60	15.60	-	15.40	15.20	15.50
All	Cwt.	17.10	14.30	16.50	16.70	15.00	15.90
Milk Cows ³	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Preliminary. ² Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. ³ Quarterly (Jan., Apr., July, Oct.).

PENNSYLVANIA PRODUCTION OF WHEAT & RYE INCREASE, WHILE OAT & BARLEY PRODUCTION DECLINE

Results of the September Agricultural Survey for small grains indicated **Pennsylvania's** 1999 production of winter wheat and rye to be above the level of a year ago, while production of oats and barley declined. Yield of oats was estimated at 55 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels per acre from last year. Acreage for harvest was estimated at 145,000 acres, down 15,000 acres from 1998. Production of oats was estimated to be 7.98 million bushels, 6 percent less than last year.

Yield of barley was estimated at 71 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels per acre from last year, and equal to the record high yield for Pennsylvania set in 1992. Acreage for harvest was estimated at 70,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from 1998. Production was estimated to be 4.97 million bushels, 1 percent less than last year.

Yield of winter wheat was estimated at 54 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels per acre from last year. Acreage for harvest was estimated at 190,000 acres, unchanged from 1998. Production was estimated to be 10.26 million bushels, up 6 percent from last year. This is the highest production of winter wheat since 1990.

Yield of rye was estimated at 40 bushels per acre, up 7 bushels per acre from last year. This equals the record high yield for Pennsylvania set in 1997. Acreage for harvest was estimated at 15,000 acres, unchanged from a year ago. Production was estimated to be 600,000 bushels, up 21 percent from last year.

At the **United States** level, oat production for the 1999 crop year is forecast at 147.9 million bushels, 11 percent smaller than the 1998

production. This is the lowest production since record were first kept in 1866. The forecasted yield, at 60.0 bushels per acre, is slightly below last year's 60.2 bushels yield. Area harvested and to be harvested for grain in 1999 is 2.47 million acres, 11 percent below 1998. This is the smallest acreage harvested for grain on record.

Barley production in 1999 is estimated at 284 million bushels, up 1 percent from the last forecast but down 19 percent from last year's estimate. This is the lowest production since 1953. Average yield per acre, at 59.5 bushels, is down 0.5 bushels from 1998. The area harvested is estimated at 4.78 million acres, 19 percent less than a year ago. This is the lowest acreage since 1900.

The 1999 winter wheat crop production was estimated at 1.70 billion bushels. This is up 1 percent from the August forecast, but 10 percent below the 1998 level. The U.S. yield increased 0.4 bushels from August to 47.8 bushels per acre; a new record high average, nearly a bushel better than last year's former record. Acreage for grain was estimated at 35.5 million acres, down less than 1 percent from last forecast. This is the smallest harvested area since 1972. Planted area is 43.4 million acres, unchanged from the last forecast.

Rye production for 1999 is estimated at 11.0 million bushels. This is down 10 percent from last year, largely due to an 8 percent drop in acres cut for grain. Harvested area totaled 383,000 acres. The U.S. yield, at 28.7 bushels per acre, is down 0.4 bushels from last season. Of the four largest producing states, North and South Dakota and Oklahoma had large percentage drops in production. Only Georgia was

near last year's level.

POTATO PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania's production of fall potatoes for 1998 totaled 3,360,000 cwt., up 6 percent from 1997. The value of production was 24.7 million dollars, down 5 percent from 1997.

Potato sales totaled 3,058,000 cwt., or 91 percent of the 1998 crop. In 1997, 2,919,000 cwt., or 92 percent of the total production, was sold. The average price received in 1998 was \$7.35 per cwt., compared to \$8.20 in 1997. Of the total production, 50,000 cwt. were used on the farms where produced and 252,000 cwt. went to shrinkage and other losses. Farm use accounted for 78,000 cwt. in 1997 and shrinkage and other losses were 176,000 cwt.

Farmmarketings of the 1998 crop, by months, were as follows: August, 14 percent; September, 12 percent; October, 11 percent; November, 12 percent; December, 15 percent; January, 11 percent; February, 9 percent; March, 7 percent; April, 6 percent; May, 2 percent; June, 1 percent.

Nationally, acreage of all potatoes harvested in 1998 totaled 1.39 million, up 3 percent from the previous year. Yield per acre averaged 343 cwt., down 2 cwt. from 1997. Production totaled 476 million cwt. in 1998, an increase of 2 percent from the previous year.

The volume of potatoes sold was 435 million cwt., up 1 percent from 1997. Value of the 1998 potato crop was estimated at \$2.63 billion, up slightly from a year earlier. The average price was \$5.56 per cwt., compared with \$5.64 in 1997.

Processors used a record 282 million cwt. of potatoes from the 1998 crop, 124 million cwt. was sold for fresh market, and other sales (diversion, seed and livestock feed) totaled 28.2 million cwt. Non-sales, at 41.2 million cwt., were up 9 percent from 1997. Shrinkage and loss were estimated at 35.5 million cwt., feed and home use totaled 1.36 million cwt., and 4.41 million cwt. was kept by growers for seed on their own farms.



GRAIN STOCKS

Pennsylvania's old crop corn stocks on September 1, 1999, totaled 15.49 million bushels, compared with 12.96 million bushels a year ago, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn stocks on-farm totaled 12.5 million bushels, up from 10.5 million bushels last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 2.99 million bushels, compared with 2.46 million bushels a year ago. Off-farm wheat stocks were estimated at 10.01 million bushels, 1 percent more than last year's 9.95 million bushels.

Off-farm barley stocks were estimated at 1,213,000 bushels on September 1, 1999, up from 1,138,000 bushels a year ago. Off-farm soybean stocks totaled 963,000 bushels on September 1, 1999, compared with 364,000 bushels last year. For wheat, soybeans and barley, on-farm stocks are included in a national unallocated total.

Oat stocks on September 1, 1999, amounted to 6.5 million bushels, 5.6 million on-farm and 913,000 off-farm. Last year, oat stocks were estimated at 6.7 million bushels, 5.8 million on-farm and 918,000 off-farm.

Nationally, old crop corn stored in all positions on September 1, 1999, is estimated at 1.80 billion bushels, up 37 percent from September 1, 1998. On-farm stocks, at 807 million bushels, are up 26 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 989 million bushels, up 48 percent from a year earlier.

All wheat stocks in all positions totaled 2.46 billion bushels, 3 percent more than stocks on hand September 1, 1998, and the highest September 1 level since 1987-88 marketing year. Wheat stored on farms totaled 903 million bushels, up 2 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 1.56 billion bushels, up 4 percent.

Barley stocks in all positions were 297 million bushels, compared with 326 million bushels on September 1, 1998. Of the total barley stocks on hand, 167 million bushels were stored on farms and 130 million bushels were stored off farms.

Old crop soybeans stored in all positions totaled 348 million bushels on September 1, 1999, 74 percent more than the 200 million bushels held a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 145 million bushels, are 72 percent more than last year. Off-farm holdings totaled 203 million bushels, 76 percent more than September 1, 1998.

Oat stocks in all positions totaled 148 million bushels, 8 percent below a year ago. Of the total stocks, 97.5 million bushels are stored on farms. Off-farm stocks totaled 51.0 million bushels.

PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES: GRAIN STOCKS - SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 WITH COMPARISON

Grain	Year	Pennsylvania			United States		
		On Farms	Off Farms ¹	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms ¹	Total All Positions
(000) Bushel							
Corn	1998	10,500	2,462	12,962	640,000	667,803	1,307,803
	1999	12,500	2,989	15,489	807,000	989,367	1,796,367
Wheat	1998	²	9,954	²	885,720	1,499,770	2,385,490
	1999	²	10,008	²	903,060	1,556,196	2,459,256
Soybeans	1998	²	364	²	84,300	115,499	199,799
	1999	²	963	²	145,000	202,983	347,983
Barley	1998	²	1,138	²	193,500	132,652	326,152
	1999	²	1,213	²	167,100	129,845	296,945
Oats	1998	5,800	918	6,718	110,300	51,515	161,815
	1999	5,600	913	6,513	97,500	50,982	148,482

¹ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. ² Included in U.S. totals.

MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Aug 1998	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Aug 1998	Jul 1999	Aug 1999
Layers	Thous.	21,564	22,462	22,395	309,251	319,791	320,024
Eggs Per 100 Layers	Number	2,328	2,239	2,286	2,165	2,159	2,175
Eggs Produced	Million	502	503	512	6,694	6,903	6,961
Chick Hatch-Egg Type	Thous.	3,953	4,918	4,612	33,380	34,269	35,453
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	12,507	13,306	12,634	715,650	750,547	741,253
Poult Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	24,450	26,755	24,755

EGG PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania egg production totaled 512 million during August, up 2 percent from the August 1998 production. There were an average of 22.4 million layers in the Commonwealth during the month, up 4 percent from August 1998. Average production per 100 layers was 2,286 eggs during August, 2 percent below August 1998.

Egg-type chicks hatched in **Pennsylvania** during August totaled 4.6 million, up 17 percent compared with the same month last year. Total egg-type chicks hatched from January to August 1999, at 43.8 million, was up 5 percent from 1998. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 12.6 million during August, up 1 percent from the previous year. Cumulative broiler-type hatch for the first eight months of 1999, at 102.9 million, was 1 percent above the 1998 figure.

Egg production in the **United States** totaled 6.96 billion during August 1999, up 4 percent from the previous year. Production included 5.87 billion for table eggs, 1.03 billion for broiler-type hatching eggs, and 65 million for egg-type hatching eggs. The total number of layers during August averaged 320 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. August production per 100 layers was 2,175 eggs, compared with 2,165 in August 1998. All layers in the U.S. on September 1, 1999, totaled 321 million, up 4 percent from a year ago. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 1999, averaged 71.0 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from last year's 69.3 percent.

Egg-type chicks hatched in the **United States** totaled 35.5 million during August, up 6 percent from August 1998. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.3 million on September 1, 1999, up 6 percent from a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched during August were 741 million, up 4 percent from the previous year.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, AUG 1999

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Cattle	Thous. Hd.	89.6	3,152
	Mil. Lbs. Live	111.0	3,801
Calves	Thous. Hd.	16.6	119
	Mil. Lbs. Live	5.1	33
Hogs	Thous. Hd.	220.0	8,406
	Mil. Lbs. Live	52.5	2,133
Sheep & Lambs	Thous. Hd.	7.2	296
	Mil. Lbs. Live	.7	38
Red Meat Prod.	Mil. Lbs.	103.0	3,912

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in the state during August 1999 totaled 103.0 million pounds, dressed weight basis, up 8 percent from August 1998. Beef production, at 111.0 million pounds live weight, was 4 percent more than August 1998. Total head slaughtered was 89,600, up 6 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 19 pounds to 1,239 pounds. Veal production was 5.1 million pounds live weight, 12 percent more than a year ago. Calf slaughter of 16,600 head was up 6 percent; average live weight increased 14 pounds to 308 pounds. Pork production, at 52.5 million pounds live weight, was up 15 percent from a year earlier. Total head slaughtered was 220,000, up 13 percent. Average live weight increased 5 pounds to 238 pounds. Lamb and mutton production was 673,000 pounds live weight, up 16 percent. The number slaughtered was 7,200, up 24 percent from August of last year. The average live weight decreased 6 pounds to 94 pounds from August 1998.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
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